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Serving All of Putnam County

February 11 - February 17, 2020

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 568

Putnam SPCA Finds New Home in Carmel

By Holly Crocco

The Putnam County SPCA has secured a new home.

The agency is currently housed at the Paladin Center in Carmel, which donates the space. However, with a distillery moving into the center, Chief Ken Ross explained that the building is being vacated.

Upon hearing the SPCA's plight, Wayne Ryder, CEO of Putnam County National Bank, approached Ross with an opportunity to rent property at 47 Gleneida Ave., just a few doors down from the bank. With the help of Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell and the County Legislature – under the leadership of Chairwoman Toni Addonizio – county government has pledged to cover the cost of rent up to \$3,000 per month.

Putnam SPCA took possession of the property Feb. 1 and is hoping to be moved in within the next few weeks.

Ross said the new two-story location will allow the agency to separate its law enforcement officers from its volunteer staff, which is needed to keep non-officers from having unauthorized access to law enforcement files.

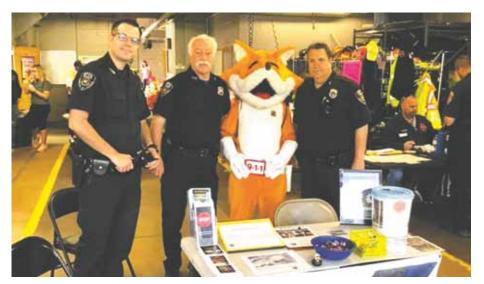
With the new, larger space, Ross said the agency is accepting donations of office materials, and manpower.

"We had two rooms at the Paladin Center, and now we're trying to furnish two floors," he said.

The chief explained that while the county also provides the agency with \$50,000 a year, that funding doesn't go far. There are three paid staff members – Ross earns between \$15,000 and \$18,000 a year, a dog control office earns about \$18,000, and Ross' son, who is also an officer, earns up to \$14,000.

"It's more a labor of love than anything else," he said of their service.

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PROVIDED PHOTO

Members of the Putnam County SPCA at a community event.

Human Skull Found in Patterson Woods

A grisly discovery was recently made behind the Putnam Diner on Route 22 in Patterson.

According to news reports, a human skull was found by a hunter. While no identification has been made, there is speculation that it could be that of a Danbury woman who went missing more than two years ago.

Danbury police reports indicate that on Nov. 7, 2017, Laelcira DeLima's red Honda was located unoccupied in the parking lot of the Putnam Diner, about two weeks after she was last seen by her family. The vehicle had been there for some time, according to police reports.

The Danbury Police Department and Putnam County Sheriff's Department are working together on the investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the PCSO at 845-225-4300 or Danbury P.D. at 203-797-4611.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Laelcira DeLima, of Danbury, was last seen in 2017. A skull was recently discovered at the same location that her abandoned car was found two years ago.

Community Action Program Seeks Food Pantry Donations

By Holly Crocco

Just outside one of the most affluent regions in the country, there are families that are going to bed hungry.

How is that possible?

According to the federal guidelines for poverty, as of January, a family of four in New York State must make no more than \$26,200 to be considered "in poverty."

"Can you imagine living in Putnam County, four people on (\$26,200) a year?" asked Putnam Community Action Partnership Director Judy Callahan on a recent episode of "Locally Sourced," a public access television series showcasing organizations in the Hudson Valley.

"The poverty level in Putnam, it's low – it's 5.3 percent as compared to 15.7 percent, I believe, at the state level," explained Callahan. "But still, 5.3 percent of almost

100,000 people is 5,300 people who are technically living in poverty."

Putnam CAP is currently seeking donations for its food pantry. Callahan said crackers and spaghetti sauce are especially needed.

CAP "currently has over 400 clients this year and expects that number to rise to an equivalent level as 2019, which was more than 700," she said. "Our services are open to all residents of Putnam County who meet the income guidelines for eligibility; folks can call the office for details."

CAP's food pantry is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Monday and Friday. On Wednesdays, the hours are extended from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"Food donations are gratefully accepted at the CAP office, located at 121 Main St., in Brewster, any weekday (during operating

continued on page 2





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Seeks Food Pantry Donations Home in Carmel-

continued from page 1 hours)," said Callahan.

CAP - which is a program run under the Westchester Community Opportunity Program - has been serving Putnam County residents in need since 1986, and Callahan has been with the organization for nine years. Both agencies work with people with low income to help them obtain selfsufficiency.

Putnam CAP runs a number of annual initiatives each year to help families in need, including a collection of back-to-school supplies for kids, a Thanksgiving basket giveaway, and a holiday toy drive.

"We serve over 500 children, and each child gets at least four toys each," said Callahan of the toy drive.

In addition, the organization leads a volunteer-run soup kitchen that is open between three and four days a week, depending on the season, at First Baptist Church in Brewster. And its food pantry is constantly being re-stocked throughout the

"We have on an average month - not everyone comes every month - we see probably 325 to 350 households," said Callahan.

All these services are free.

According to Callahan, when clients turn to CAP for the first time, they have an intake appointment with a caseworker who works with the individual or family to see



Volunteers collect donations of frozen turkeys and other food items during a Thanksgiving food drive organized by Putnam CAP.

where CAP can help, and where additional assistance can come from, such as the county's Department of Social Services.

"We really do look at the entire picture, because people don't just come to us because they can't afford food and that's the extent of the problem," said Callahan. "That's what brings them to the door."

For more information on how to obtain the services of CAP, or ways to volunteer or donate, call the office at 845-278-8021 or visit putnamcap.org.

CAP will hold its annual luncheon and silent auction Thursday, April 16 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at St. James Church, Doherty Hall in Carmel. Tickets are \$50 per guest. Auction items and sponsorships are being sought. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call the office.

Community Action Program | Putnam SPCA Finds New

continued from page 1

There are also two volunteer officers, among other volunteers.

"It's very helpful," Ross said of the county stipend. "But when you're trying to run a police agency... We go on e-Bay and buy old equipment. The best car we have right now is a 2009 Chevy Tahoe that was taken out of service by the Lake Carmel Fire Department."

The SPCA is accepting donations of office supplies, from pens and paper, to furniture and electronics; as well as office décor, such as rugs, door plaques, and name plates for desks. In addition, it is looking for donations of time and materials for interior painting, carpentry, lighting, installation of an alarm system and cameras, and more.

"Clancy Moving has stepped up and said they would move us for free," said Ross. 'Which is great."

The Putnam Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is not affiliated with the American SPCA. Its law enforcement

officers travel the entire county seeking the protection of animals. According to Ross, the agency responded to 2,800 reports of possible animal cruelty last year. In addition, it patrols every parking lot across the county throughout the summer months.

"Last year we pulled 35 dogs out of cars," he said. "In the past that number has been

But this service comes with a cost.

According to Ross, gas and insurance are hefty bills for the agency, as can be sheltering seized animals. "We don't have a shelter," he explained. When an animal is seized, either a veterinarian will volunteer an overnight stay or the agency has to pay to shelter the animal.

"We scrape by, but people are generous in Putnam County," said Ross.

Anyone who has goods or services to donate may contact the Putnam SPCA at 845-520-6915 or putnamspca@spcaputnam.





Q: Do I have sciatica? **Ask the Doctor**

John Abrahams, MD, FAANS Chief, Neurosurgery Co-Director, Spine Surgery, Orthopedic & Spine Institute Northern Westchester Hospital

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A: You probably do if you feel a sudden and severe pain, along with numbness and weakness, radiating from the buttocks down the back of one leg to the foot. The pain can be crippling. It is usually intense when you walk, diminishing when you lie down.

and treatment of sciatica...

Pain Shooting Down One Leg?

What you need to know about symptoms

Q: What causes sciatica?

A: The *sciatic nerve* branches from the spine in the lower back through the hips and buttocks and runs down the back of each leg to the foot. Sciatica occurs when this nerve is pinched in the lower back by spinal disc herniation – protruding disc material – or by a larger fragment of disc material. Disc herniation usually occurs during normal activities, such as rising from bed.

Q: Am I at risk for sciatica?

A: Sciatica is common. More than three million Americans are diagnosed with the condition annually.* Apart from the fact that 10 to 15 percent of patients have a family history of back problems, there are no risk factors. No behavior predisposes you to it.

Q: What are my treatment options?

A: If you have sciatica and it is not severe, you will typically receive oral steroids (anti-inflammatories) for seven days. Once you're more mobile, you will engage in physical therapy for a period of time and then be re-evaluated. If your symptoms persist, you may receive an injection of steroids at the nerve root to reduce pain. If this regimen fails, physicians will offer surgery. However, if a patient comes in unable to stand – basically bed-bound – we advise surgery sooner. It is important to know that 80 to 90 percent of patients get better without surgery.

Q: What can I expect from surgery for sciatica?

A: This minimally invasive procedure takes under an hour, and consists of removing the disc material pressing on the nerve. Most patients are pain-free following surgery. We have seen patients who arrived unable to stand or walk for more than a few minutes, walk out the same day after surgery, completely asymptomatic. Sciatica recurs in ten percent of people, who may suffer recurrent bouts of the condition throughout their life.

* http://umm.edu/health/medical/reports/articles/ back-pain-and-sciatica

Route 22 in Brewster to be Repaved with State Funds

Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently announced a statewide commitment to invest \$151 million into 95 paving projects and the renewal of approximately 1,000 lane miles, including nearly \$3 million for roadways in Putnam and Westchester counties.

Projects include \$1.9 million to resurface Route 22 from Doansburg Road to Old Route 22 in Brewster, \$521,000 to resurface Route 22 from Milltown Road to Overlook Lane, also in Brewster, and \$500,000 to resurface Route 118 from Route 100 to Route 129 in Westchester County.

According to the governor's announcement, these projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

Also expected to be completed are two projects previously announced, including \$2.8 million to resurface Route 22 from the Westchester County line to Route

6 in Putnam County, and \$1.1 million to resurface Route 139 from Route 100 to the Primrose School Driveway in the town of Somers.

"I'm pleased to learn of our state's renewed commitment to our roadways, specifically these sections of Route 22 and Route 118," said Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, R-Mahopac. "The sections which are scheduled to be resurfaced are in dire need of repair."

State Sen. Pete Harckham, D-Peekskill, said it is crucial that leaders continue to make investments in renewing and updating New York's transportation infrastructure, "especially roadways and bridges that cannot be neglected any longer."

"These two improvement and renewal projects will help increase workforce development and economic growth for our local communities," he said.

Putnam Young Republicans Elect Officers



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Putnam County Young Republicans Club held its first monthly general membership meeting of the New Year on Jan. 29 and elected its officers for 2020. They are, from left, Treasurer Nick Fannin, Vice President Ciaran Bruen, President Tara Keegan and Recording Secretary Jarred Buchannan. For the upcoming year, the club is looking forward to expanding its membership, hosting events and launching social media campaigns to recruit new members. Anyone interested in becoming a member can visit www.putnamyr.com or Facebook, or e-mail

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Putnam Names New Director of EMS | Sponsor

Casey Quake has been hired as the new director of emergency medical services at the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services.

Quake, who has spent more than a decade as a paramedic, educator and manager, has been working with EMStar Ambulance in Putnam County for the past three years.

"This is one of the most important jobs in terms of keeping our residents healthy and safe," said Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "We are pleased that our county continues to attract top talent for such vital positions."

In addition to his work as a field paramedic, Quake is a faculty member for the National Association of EMS Educators and has traveled across the country teaching other professionals advanced life-saving skills.

"Mr. Quake has the experience and drive to lead our Emergency Medical Services into the future," said Ken Clair, commissioner of the Putnam County BES. "Over the years, he has held progressively responsible positions in EMS as a clinician, educator and administrator. He is also known nationally as an educator, and will bring that presence to our office."

In his new position, Quake will be responsible for the oversight of county EMS agencies and EMS education programs. He will also assist with other duties to ensure the county is able to serve the community.



PROVIDED PHOTO

From left are BES Commissioner Ken Clair, Director of EMS Casey Quake, County Executive MaryEllen Odell, and former Director of EMS Bob Cuomo.

Quake was selected after interviews with several candidates, and will replace Bob Cuomo, who retired from the bureau more than a year ago.

As an added benefit, Quake's service dog, Teddy, will also be joining him at the bureau.

Sponsor a Brick at Camp Herrlich

Community members are invited to have 4-inch-by-8-inch or 8-inch-by-8-inch brick engraved and installed as part of the new Camp Herrlich Education and Retreat Center's landscaping.

Bricks ordered by Feb. 28 will be included in the first installation, which will take place in May.

Honor a camper or family, remember a loved one, thank favorite staff members, show support for the camp, advertise your business, recognize the years you worked or played – and more.

Up to three lines of text, 18 characters per line, may be engraved on smaller bricks, which cost \$50. Larger bricks cost \$100 and can hold up to six lines of text. To have a logo placed on an 8-inch-by-8-inch brick, the cost is \$200.

For more information, visit www. campherrlich.org.

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www.TheExaminerNews.com February 11 - February 17, 2020





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Nuvance Health Preps for Possible Coronavirus Cases

While there have been zero cases of the 2019 novel coronavirus in New York and Connecticut, Nuvance Health says it is closely monitoring this new infectious disease surge and is prepared to provide the communities it serves with the safest, most current care and information.

Nuvance Health is comprised of seven nonprofit hospitals spanning the Hudson Valley and western Connecticut – including Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel. Staff throughout the health system have taken several steps, in accordance with guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to ready the hospitals and

outpatient practices for potential cases.

This includes participating in local, state and federal discussions, webinars and collaborative emergency management planning; sharing information and best practice clinical recommendations across the health system and offsite locations; hosting Grand Rounds presented by global health and infectious disease experts to provide education and training for screening and infection control in accordance with CDC guidelines; assessing a supply chain for specialty equipment assets and needs; and identifying available negative pressure rooms to accommodate people under

investigation requiring airborne isolation.

"Our multidisciplinary team across Nuvance Health is working closely together to ensure we are prepared for this quickly evolving outbreak," said Dr. Valerie Cluzet, an infectious disease specialist. "Effective communication and staying informed are both essential to prevent the spread of communicable diseases."

"Our preparedness for potential 2019-nCoV cases is comprehensive and standardized across our health system, with the safety and health of our patients, visitors, staff and communities underlying all of our efforts," added Dr. Paul Nee,

another infectious disease specialist. "We will continue to seek CDC best practice information to guide our system response."

As of Feb. 6, there have been 12 coronavirus cases confirmed in the U.S. – in Arizona, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Washington and Wisconsin. Approximately 76 Americans are being tested for the virus.

There is no vaccine to prevent the 2019-nCoV infection.

Nuvance Health urges individuals to stay vigilant and take preventative actions as they would for any respiratory virus.

Seek medical care if you feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, and have traveled to China or were in close contact with someone with 2019-nCoV in the 14 days before you began to feel sick. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency department, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.

Nuvance Health has strict protocols for patients presenting to any medical facility with a fever, cough or rash. If any of these symptoms are present, patients are urged to wear masks before entering the facilities. If they are not wearing masks, patients will be asked upon registering if they have any of these symptoms and if they have traveled in the past 30 days to regions with a concern for communicable diseases. If they answer "yes," they will be given a surgical mask and isolated in a separate room for evaluation.

The CDC is updating information on the 2019 novel coronavirus on its website daily. Stay informed by visiting www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html.

ALERT TOWN OF SOUTHEAST RESIDENTS

IS THERE A COMPELLING PUBLIC NEED TO SWAP OPEN SPACE PUGSLEY RD LAND FOR A DEVELOPER'S PARCEL ON STARR RIDGE RD?

SOUTHEAST PUBLIC OFFICIALS ARE SCHEMING TO FAST TRACK THE SWAPPING OF OPEN SPACE LAND ON **PUGSLEY RD**, ADOPTED BY 2007 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD, THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE AND SUPPORTED BY THE VOTERS IN A 2005 REFERENDUM WHICH APPROVED \$5MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE. TO PRESERVE THE RURAL CHARACTER OF THEIR TOWN AND PROTECT TILLY FOSTER FARM FROM THE ONSLAUGHT OF DEVELOPMENT PRESSURE, SOUTHEAST RESIDENTS AGREED TO AN INCREASE IN THEIR TAXES. NOW THOSE TAXES ARE GOING TO BE USED TO BENEFIT A DEVELOPER, WHO WANTS TO BUILD A SPORTS COMPLEX, ON PUGSLEY AND IN LET'S MAKE A DEAL SCHEME SWAP HIS FLAT, BARREN, DISTANT 100 ACRE LAND TO FULFILL THE OPEN SPACE MANDATE.

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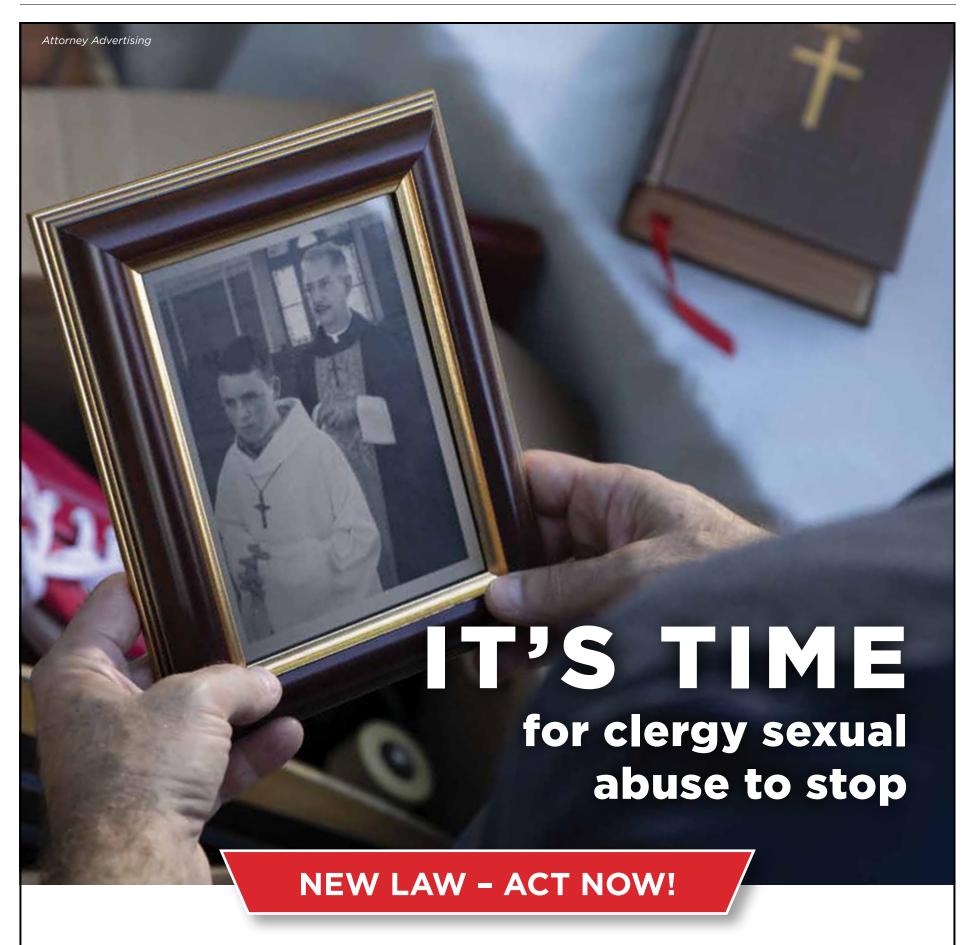
IS THERE A COMPELLING NEED FOR A SPORTS COMPLEX WHEN DEVELOPER HAROLD LEPLER DONATED 15 ACRES NOT A MILE AWAY AND WITH THE TOWN HAVING 6 PARKS WITH OVER 100 ACRES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACTIVE RECREATION?

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Obituaries

Thomas Ambrosino

Thomas Ambrosino, formerly of Carmel, died at the Bailey Hospice Center in St. Augustine, Fla., on Jan. 31 with his wife at his side. He was 67 years old.

Born in Brooklyn on May 28, 1953, he was one of nine children born to the late Joseph Ambrosino and late Daphne (Freeman) Ambrosino of Jackson Heights.

Married for 36 years, he is survived by his wife, Mary Ann (Taggart) Ambrosin; children and their spouses James Ambrosino (Monica), Jessica Ambrosino Wakeman (Christian), and Matthew Ambrosino (Tia); grandchildren Savannah, Thomas, Victoria and Rose; sisters Angela Adams, Janet LaCamera, Irene Gerberti, Mary Kempton, Susan Capul and Catherine Pernice; brothers Joseph Ambrosino and James Ambrosino; along with sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Visitation was at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster on Feb. 7, with a Mass of Christian Burial the following day at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster. Interment was private.

Linda Jean Beska

Linda Jean Beska of Chester, formerly of Mahopac, passed away Feb. 4 at the age of 68. She was born in Farmingdale on Aug. 22, 1951, the daughter of John Richard Beska Sr. and Davey Jean (Snell) Beska.

Linda graduated from Mahopac High School in 1969, part of the first class in the new high school on Baldwin Place Road. She earned her associate's degree in nursing from Sullivan County Community College.

Linda was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fireman's Association of the State of New York and a member of the Hudson Valley Fireman's Association Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by sisters Barbara (Hans) Beska Borowitz of Wappingers Falls and Paula Beska Malara of Brewster; brother David (Patti) Beska of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by brother John Richard Beska Jr. in 1984.

Family received friends Feb. 7 at Joseph

J. Smith Funeral Home. A Service of Remembrance was held at the funeral home the next day, with interment at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

Irene Haddeland

Irene Haddeland of Mahopac passed away Feb. 4 at the age of 71. She was born Jan. 22, 1949 in Norway, the daughter of Siguard and Signe (Vestvik) Refvik. On Aug. 31, 1968, she married the late Harald Haddeland and they were blessed with five children.

Irene is survived by daughter Diane Tanzi (Tony); sons Darren, Kurt, Michael (Erin) and David (Siobhan); sisters Ogla Refvik and Deanne Mazza; and grandchildren Tabitha, Hudson, Finn, Holden, Hadley, Hayden and Cormac.

Visitation was Feb. 6 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac, with graveside committal prayers and personal words the next day at Raymond Hill Cemetery in Carmel.

Sylvia Komsa

Sylvia Komsa, a longtime resident of Mahopac, passed away Feb. 6 in Purdys. She was 84.

Born in Cambridge Springs, Pa., to John and Stephany Waclawik, she married Eugene Komsa on May 6, 1961. They were married 41 years, until his passing in 2002.

Sylvia's family was one of the first to move into the Red Mills neighborhood of Mahopac.

Sylvia is survived by children Michelle Cook (husband Stephen) and John Komsa (companion Patience Thomas), sisters Pearl Hale and Gloria Hayes, brother Eugene Waclawik, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded by her parents, brother Joseph Waclawik, and an unnamed daughter who died at birth.

A memorial gathering was held on what would have been her 85th birthday, Feb. 8, at Heritage Funeral Home in Putnam Valley. A family celebration of life will be held later this spring so she can be returned to Cambridge Springs, the place she always considered "home."

Thomas I. McNally

Thomas I. McNally, 44, died Feb. 3.

Thomas was born July 31, 1975 in Peekskill, to John Joseph and Esther May McNally.

Thomas graduated from John F. Kennedy High School and worked as a truck driver for Envirowaste/Clean Harbors in Mahopac. He was a member of the 4th Degree Father Damian Assembly Color Corp. and the Knights of Columbus Council 14991 St. Columbanus.

Thomas is survived by his fiancée Donna Straface and her children, Pamela and Joe Leo of Putnam Valley, Paul Straface of Putnam Valley, and Steve and Emily Straface Jr., of Croton-on-Hudson; siblings Patrick McNally of Cortlandt Manor, Kathleen McNally of Montrose, Eileen and Richard Lepore of Lake Peekskill, Maureen and Dan Scott of Cuddebackville, John McNally and wife of Poughkeepsie, and Colleen Gray of Dayton, Texas; as well as nieces and nephews and his beloved Pepper.

He was predeceased by his parents and brother Michael McNally.

Visitation was held Feb. 10 at Cargain Funeral Homes, Inc., in Mahopac, with a Mass to celebrate his life the next day at St. Columbanus Church in Cortlandt Manor. Following the service, Thomas was brought to his final resting place at Assumption Cemetery in Cortlandt Manor.

Dahleen Pino

Dahleen Pino of Brewster died at her home with her family by her side Feb. 1. She was 54.

She was born June 18, 1965 in Brooklyn, daughter of the late Richard and Bernadette (Mohn) Brooks. Mrs. Pino married Samuel Pino in Brooklyn, and they moved to Brewster in 2012.

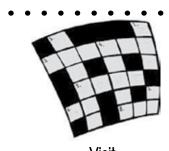
Dahleen is survived by her husband; children Phil Pino and his wife Tiffiney, Joshua Pino, Samuel Pino, Shaun Pino and Angel Pino; grandchildren Bailey, Aiden, Brody and Noah; and siblings Richard Brooks, Deana Tuomi and Darylann Simonetti.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated Feb. 6 at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster, with visitation beforehand at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster.



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PROVIDED PHOTO

Kent Veteran Gets Long-Overdue Honor

Korean War veteran Frank LaFranca, 91, of Kent, right, was presented with the Putnam County Service Medal on Jan. 29 at his home. Putnam Veterans' Service Agency Director Karl Rohde, left, Kent Town Supervisor Maureen Fleming, and New York Riders-Putnam County members Cliff Fitzgerald, Bob Ferguson and Randy were on hand to honor LaFranca. The veteran was also presented with a proclamation from the Town of Kent, as well as recognitions from Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, State Sen. Pete Harckham and Congressman Sean Maloney.

Police Blotter

Drug Charges

Jan. 22: Tyrone Henly, 45, of Carmel, a newly-committee inmate at the Putnam County Correctional Facility, was charged by members of the sheriff's department's Narcotics Enforcement Unit with one count of seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance after he was reportedly found to be in possession of Alprazolam. He was issued an appearance ticket returnable to Carmel Town Court later this month.

Jan. 14: Adam Latham, 35, of Danbury, was arrested by investigators with the NEU on an outstanding Putnam County Court bench warrant and bail jumping charges.

In July, Latham failed to appear in County Court to answer to felony charges of third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, third-degree criminal sale of a controlled substance, and tampering with physical evidence; and misdemeanor charges of second-degree obstructing governmental administration and resisting arrest.

The charges stem from an investigation by the NEU into Latham's alleged sales and possession of crack cocaine in the Town of Southeast in February 2019, which lead to his arrest.

On Jan. 14, investigators from the NEU traveled to Danbury Connecticut Superior Court to take Latham into custody after he was being released from the State of Connecticut Department of Corrections on unrelated charges.

2597 Rt. 22 Patterson

PattersonAutoBody.com

In addition to the pending charges, Latham was charged with one count of first-degree bail jumping. He was arraigned before Judge James Rooney in County Court on the bench warrant and was remanded to PCCF in lieu of \$100,000 cash or \$200,000 bond.

Latham was additionally arraigned by Judge Thomas Jacobellis in Town of Carmel Court on the bail jumping charges and again remanded to PCCF, in lieu of \$200 cash bail or \$400 bond.

On Jan. 30, Latham pled guilty in County Court to one count of third-degree criminal sale of a controlled substance, a class B felony, and one count of first-degree bail jumping, a class D felony. He will be sentenced at a later date.

Jan. 9: Souvann Deiondre Williams, 26, of Carmel, was arrested by members of the NEU after he was reportedly seen committing a traffic violation on Fair Street in Carmel and during a traffic stop it was determined that he held a driver's license that contained 27 separate suspensions – the majority which were for failing to answer or failing to pay previously issued summonses.

Williams was charged with first-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, a class E felony, and released on his own recognizance in accordance with the newly enacted New York State bail reform laws. He is scheduled to appear in Carmel Town Court at a later date.

845.878.3456



estate planning, Wills, Trusts, Medicaid and long-term care planning,

special needs planning, guardianships, and other areas of interest.



Cold Chill Moves in For Kent Winterfest



Winter made a brief appearance during the annual Kent Winterfest on Saturday on the town campus on Sybil's Crossing.



Anders Follett, 9, of Kent, toasts a marshmallow outside Town Hall.



Members of the Nimham Mountain Singers host a drum circle inside Town Hall.



Kendall Zampier, 2, of Mahopac, gets a glitter tattoo inside the Kent Public Library.



Members of the Lake Carmel Fire Department man the bonfire.



The Carmel-Kent Chamber of Commerce hands out hot cocoa and other goodies at Winterfest.



MARJORIE NICHOLS KEITH PHOTO

There's Still Time to Sign Up for Rotary B-Ball Challenge

The Carmel Rotary Club and Carmel High School Interact Club invite organizations to raise money for their programs, services and activities at the Community Basketball Challenge on Saturday, Feb. 29 from 9 a.m. to noon at the high school gymnasium. So far, more than \$20,000 has been raised in participant pledges and business sponsorships toward this year's \$65,000 goal. Last year's event raised more than \$60,00, benefitting 65 organizations. This year's challenge is dedicated to the memory of the Hon. James Reitz. For more information, call 845-225-2122, visit www.carmelrotary.org or email carmelrotaryclubny@gmail.com. From left are Carmel Rotary Club members Al Lotrecchiano, Ed Hengel, President Mary Shanley, Kevin Carroll and Sal Gambino.



Fair and Affordable Rental Apartments For Seniors 55+

Carmel, Putnam County, New York

Spacious one-bedroom apartments starting at \$1,043 and two-bedroom apartments starting at \$1,245.

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For information contact: Housing Action Council

914-332-4144 ■www.housingactioncouncil.org ⋈ hac@affordablehomes.org















Brewster Theater Company Presents 'Hindsight is 20/20'

The Brewster Theater Company will open its 20th season with a celebratory cabaret "Hindsight Is 20/20," an all-star blast from its summer musical past, with performances Feb. 15 and 16.

Enjoy selections from BTC's musicals with many of the group's cast members singing popular numbers from "Nunsense," "Bye Bye Birdie," "The Full Monty," "Drowsy Chaperone," "Scrooge," "Spamalot," "Spamalot," "Urinetown," "City of Angels" and more.

The cabaret is being directed by Pam DeHuff of Pawling, with assistant direction by Emma Burke-Covitz. It is being produced by Amanda Bevacqua, with musical direction by Melissa Jones of Brewster.

Music will be performed by Kim Papa and Nate Brewster.

The show features Rob Ansbro, Amanda Bevacqua, Judy Brewster, Emma BurkeCovitz, Philip Corso, Shannon Courtney-Denihan, Pam DeHuff, Stacy Dumont, Barbara Kessler, Gabriel Montanaro, David Neilsen, Robin O'Leary, Phil Pineau, Carly Phypers, Rebecca Pokorski Cebollero, Mario Riccobon, Ted Schwartz, Pat Sebastian, Ken Shelby, Steven Sylvia and Nina Wilson.

Performances are Saturday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m., at The Theater at Drew Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. Admission is \$15. Visit www. brewstertheater.org for more information and to reserve seats.

Brewster The ater Info@Contact gmail.com or call 845-206-9013 for additional information or weather-related announcements.

The Brewster Theater Company is a nonprofit community theater celebrating its 20th year.



STACY DUMONT PHOTO

Musical Director Melissa Jones and cast of "Hindsight is 20/20."

Mahopac F.D. Awarded \$50,000 Grant

The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department was recently awarded \$50,000 in state grant funding for the purchase of a state-of-theart stretcher system and gurney for its emergency response vehicle.

The announcement was made last week by State Sen. Pete Harckham, D-Peekskill, who helped secure the funding within the State and Municipal Facilities Program. It will reimburse the fire department for total costs associated with the acquisition and installation of a Stryker Power-LOAD fastening system and a new, corresponding gurney.

The Power-LOAD has a battery-sourced hydraulic system that raises and lowers the gurney for easier loading and unloading of

"Making sure that our first responders have advanced, up-to-date equipment to do their jobs and ensure the safety and well-being of our residents is a top priority of mine," said Harckham. "The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department serves a busy district, and the funding for the new stretcher and loading system will benefit both the first responders and residents."

The loading and lifting capacities of the new emergency patient transport equipment will help reduce debilitating back injuries for EMS first responders and caregivers, according to the department.

"The power stretcher system, both the lift and gurney, will offer safety benefits to patients and first responders," said Chris Pfaffenberger, one of the MVFD commissioners. "It also allows one crew member to lift a patient into the emergency vehicle – a real plus when you don't have an extra crew member on board to help with the lifting. So, this is an important asset for the department, and we greatly appreciate Sen. Harckham's support for our mission and service."

The department answered more than 1,000 calls last year, fire and EMS included, out of three different stations. The department's district covers approximately 14 square miles and is home to about 14,000 residents.

Historic Smalley's Corner Cemetery Restored

A group of public servants recently gathered to celebrate the restoration of one of Putnam County's oldest cemeteries, which was destroyed by the May 2018 tornadoes.

"The Putnam County Legislature was proud to help restore the historic Smalley's Corner Cemetery," said Chairwoman Toni Addonizio of Kent. "The May 2018 tornado left behind a trail of destruction, but the partnership between the Putnam County Parks Department and the Kent Highway Department cleared the damage and returned the property to its beautiful state. This cemetery is an historic treasure."

Betty Behr, former Kent town historian,

said Smalley's Corner Cemetery is a tremendous resource.

More than 40 gravestones fill the site, including one for Issac W. Parker, who enlisted in the Army in 1862 when 60,000 men signed up to fight in the Civil War. Local Scout troops and others visit the cemetery regularly to learn about early Putnam residents like Parker, who lived from 1842 to 1913, and whose headstone reads: "He was a soldier for the Lord and for his country for 56 years."

"That tornado hit the cemetery and laid 100-year-old trees flat," said Behr. "Without the help, we wouldn't have even been able to get into the cemetery to put wreaths on the graves."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Former Kent Town Historian Betty Behr is surrounded by (from left) Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti, County Executive MaryEllen Odell, County Legislature Chairwoman Toni Addonizio, and Kent Highway Supervisor Richard Othmer Jr.

Woodland Walk and Ice Pond Hike

A woodland walk on the Dextra Baldwin McGonagle Preserve will take place Saturday, Feb. 15 at 1 p.m., at 35 Abbeyfield Lane, Patterson. The preserve is on the eastern edge of the Ice Pond basin.

The pond itself was a source of ice that was harvested and used both locally in New York City and as far away as the Caribbean before refrigeration was invented. Today, the area is endowed with great beauty and natural riches.

Ice Pond itself is a rare and exquisite gem. It lies between two ridges that rise more than 400 feet. These forested hills contribute to the great diversity of wildlife by offering a wide range of habitats for birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, insects, plants and

amphibians.

The DBM Preserve was acquired by Putnam County Land Trust in collaboration with Westchester Land Trust and Friends of the Great Swamp in 2014. Some of the plant communities to be walked through include an Appalachian Oak-Hickory forest, a Maple-Beech forest, Red Maple forests and Hemlock and White Pine stands.

Jim Nordgren, an area naturalist and PCLT consultant, will lead the walk

If there is snow, snow shoes or cross country skis are suggested, otherwise warm boots/shoes should be sufficient.

For more information or to register (registration is suggested), call 914-621-8466.



Volunteers Needed to Help Run PHC Thrift Shop

The Eagle Eye thrift store in Brewster is in need of volunteers to help run the shop.

The store, among the oldest in Brewster, is run by the Putnam Hospital Center Auxiliary, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to fund vital programs and services at the hospital. Some of these recent fundraising efforts have resulted in planned renovations to the Emergency Department and the installation of a 3-D mammography unit.

"The charm of Eagle
Eye is the volunteers who
are like family and share
the same enthusiasm of
helping the hospital and
the community," said
John Mahoney, manager
of volunteer resources for the hospital.

Eagle Eye offers gently worn and used items, including men's, women's and children's apparel, as well as shoes, toys, housewares, crockery and knick-knacks.

Tax-deductible donations are always accepted.

The thrift shop, along with the hospital gift shop and other fundraising activities,



PROVIDED PHOTO

Putnam Hospital Center thrift store volunteers.

has allowed the PHC Auxiliary to make more than \$8 million in pledge payments to the hospital since the group formed in 1963.

Eagle Eye, located at 65 Main St., is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Mahoney at 845-230-4752 or john. mahoney2@nuvancehealth.org.





Pros and Cons of Staying in the Same Town, Same Home

While most people move an average of five to seven years, there are those who remain in the same home for the long term.

Some might consider this situation dull and uneventful, but as someone who has lived most of his adult life in the same town and in only one house for 43 years, then in a condo for the last five years just three miles away, I can attest to it having some very satisfying benefits.

Within the year, I've been involved in two home sales involving young families relocating to another state, and both couples, under 45 with young children, appeared very excited about moving on to a new

living experience. I wished them Godspeed. As for my wife and me, we've passed up several opportunities through the years to relocate, perhaps influenced by our early married life which, for a number of reasons, involved five moves in less than five years. When we moved into our Westchester home after this peripatetic existence, which we found most disruptive and unpleasant, we adopted the oft-repeated phrase that the only way we were leaving this house would be in a pine box.

Morbid as that may sound, we were serious and our longevity in the house would attest to it. But, alas, all things do change eventually if one waits long enough. As

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

empty-nesters living in a home with six bedrooms, we decided to downsize to a new condo, but in the same town.

As I look back on the benefits of staying the course as town residents, I've learned that owning a home is so much more than the square footage of one's living space. The experience extends beyond the footprint to the property line, street, neighborhood, community, and most of all, to the people with whom we relate over a long period of time.

When we first moved to this area, my wife and I were the "kids" on the block and the majority of other residents were seniors, many of whom had

bought their properties when they were unheated summer cottages. By the time we arrived, the homes had been converted to year-round residences and slowly they began to change hands to younger couples.

Then, we watched as those small houses developed larger footprints and, in some cases, were demolished to make room for new construction.

Many neighbors had come and gone, but we remained constant, and eventually became the most long-term citizens on our street.

We have become human time machines to the passing world, observing both subtle and seismic changes from the same perspective, relating to all of our neighbors and service providers as real people and friends, rather than the more anonymous existence we experienced in New York City.

The very first person we met in town was George, our mailman, and we missed him when he retired. We became friends with Jimmy from UPS who tended to our needs in our home business for more than 20 years until he too retired, but we still keep up with him when my wife meets him in the supermarket.

In town I go to the same pharmacy, that until recently, had been owned by the same family since the early 1940s. I say hello to the new owner after relating to the former owner for almost 30 years. My wife and I frequently tell the story of the time our baby got sick when I was away on business and that pharmacist personally delivered the needed medication to our home.

As long-term homeowners, my wife and I developed strong ties to our community and enjoy participating with other residents in the governmental process, joining the Chamber of Commerce and pulling together for common causes from preserving open space to smart-growth development and joining forces to clean the roads on Earth Day.

Our daughter benefitted by being educated in just one school system, remaining friends to this day with children she met in kindergarten.

And, I became friends with service providers who made our lives easier. Martino the landscaper, Mike the pool man,

Franco the carpenter, Butch the electrician and Ron at my car repair shop who knows every need and quirk of my car, among many others.

The Putnam Examiner

When I'm walking down a main street in town and someone honks, waves and calls me by name, I feel embraced by my lifestyle choice.

Is it these endearing things that have kept my wife and me in the same place for so long, or is it that we've not encountered the situations that most frequently have people move?

Those reasons include a home becomes too small; a desire to upgrade; determining that you have made a mistake in the home you purchased; a job transfer; personal relationships (marriage, divorce); neighborhood changes; to see one's family more often – or less often; retirement; health problems; preferring to move, rather than fixing up; desiring a lifestyle change; and becoming an empty-nester.

Yes, finally, it was the last two items on the list that convinced us to move to a new home. But the town? We decided to stay put, thank you.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.





The Cultural and Generational Dichotomy Over Alcohol Consumption



By Nick Antonaccio

In a December column I suggested that readers accept the Dry January challenge – 30 days of alcohol-free existence. A number of you took the challenge – including yours truly – and not only met the challenge, but felt it

had an impact on their health and wallet.

As for myself, I succeeded in avoiding all alcohol, in spite of numerous wine events and tastings I attended (my mantra: sip and spit, no swallowing). However, for myself, abstinence does make the heart grow fonder. I have resumed my decades-old habit of consuming a glass of wine with dinner, with not a tinge of guilt.

As I immersed myself in the ritual of Dry January, I delved deeper into

the drinking habits of American generations. Much scrutiny is focused on the millennials. They are the "health-conscious" generation. They will not repeat the bad habits of previous generations. Plant protein is now the favored alternative to animal protein. Soft drinks are the beverage of choice. Low-alcohol hard seltzer is the acceptable choice for alcohol consumption.

In my opinion, the lifestyle of

many millennials receives more attention than is warranted. This health-conscious generation, in certain respects, is the antithesis of the freespirited, excessive-smoking (legal and illegal), alcoholconsuming baby boomer

generation. Their lifestyle considers the body a temple, to be revered and respected in all daily decisions.

What is not considered is that baby boomers have decades of life experiences and discretionary income (and far less education debt) to enjoy the finer things in life.

But which generation has the better life focus? The free-spirited 56- to 74-year-old boomers or the more conservative-rooted 20- to 38-year-old millennials?

If it's not clear, I'm of the pre-alphabet, baby boomer generation, or if we must all have alphabetical labels, Generation W. With that as a point of context, allow me to analyze the habits of Generation Y and the generation being influenced by

them, Generation Z.

I recently read a press release from a webbased consumer-tracking company, Criteo, that

"Gen-Z and Millennials are constantly seeking products that not only fit into social trends, but also elevate life



experiences."

Hmm, like the Keto diet? "I'm limiting my carbs and increasing my high-protein intake (typically from fatty foods) to lose weight and improve my overall health" is the mantra of these proponents. And it is the

most popular diet in the United States - right now.

With these trends evolving, what are the younger generations consuming as their beverages of choice? Many have become "sober curious," evaluating their alcohol decisions and choices as they interface with their peers in social settings.

According to polling company Nielsen CGA, consumption of low-alcohol and no-alcohol products is expected to grow 32 percent by 2022 from current levels. The beverages of choice?

First, soft drinks. Counterintuitively, retail sales grew 2.9 percent in the past year. Many drinks in this category are high in caffeine and artificially sweetened, concocted in laboratories and mass-produced in factories. Alcohol-free, certainly, but healthier than red wine?

Second, hard seltzers. This category is booming over the past year. Moderate consumption seems to trump other sources of alcohol consumption. Low alcohol, certainly, but healthier than red wine?

Let's compare low-alcohol alternatives, such as White Claw hard seltzer, to wine.

The nutrition profiles of a single serving:

'But which generation has the better life focus?'

Hard seltzers: 100 calories, three carbohydrates, 5 percent (White Claw) to 14 percent (Four Loko) alcohol by volume.

Red wine: 110 calories, four carbohydrates, 6 percent (many Moscatos, Rieslings) to 14 percent (a number of Cabernet Sauvignons and Zinfandels) alcohol by volume.

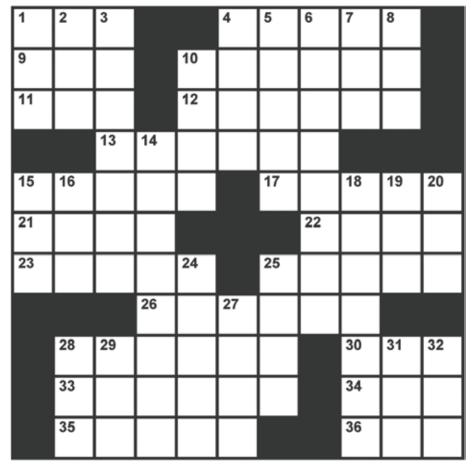
And did I mention that wine fits the profile of millennial preferences: a plant-based product that is gluten-free and low in carbohydrates?

The alcohol in wine is without question a negative component of this favored beverage. Yet, as in all things, moderation and drinking responsibly are key to its craftsmanship, complexity and sophistication over factory-produced alternatives.

You be the judge as you consider your choices.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1. Sleeping place
- 4. Not cool any more
- 9. Crew member
- 10. Sublet
- 11. Vein contents
- 12. His first restaurant in Yorktown was so nice, he did it twice, now open in Somers,

___ I

- 13. Free ___ (1850s abolitionist)
- 15. Cover anew, as a plot
- 17. Evasive
- 21. Tool for a duel
- 22. Cancel
- 23. Ziti, e.g.
- 25. "Little dancer of fourteen years" painter
- 26. Leader's cry
- 28. More rotten, as timber
- 30. Beach Boys' "Barbara ____"
- 33. New hair salon in Yorktown that is anything but "ordinary, "Lala's ____ Cuts"
- 34. Derisive cry
- 35. Per annum
- 36. Cardinal's insignia

Down

- 1. Ghost's cry
- 2. Lend it or bend it
- 3. Dons clothes
- 4. Nuisance
- 5. Rainbow-like
- 6. Pirate

7. Elder

8. Dolls of the 80s

10. Away, as a game

14. Fighting directly

15. Agent (abbr.)

16. Mileage rating org.

18. Summer time

19. Model Carangi

20. Gridiron gains, abbr.

24. Soulful Baker

25. Ste. Jeanne ___

27. Dam

28. Narc's org.

29. Opioid in slang

31. King Cole musician

32. Ice hockey org.



Happenin8s

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Nikki Gallagher at nikki@theexaminernews.com

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Craft Fair: Reed Library is accepting applications for our Craft Fair: To be held Saturday May 2. There is no charge to display and sell your crafts and artwork. We only require that what you're selling is made by hand. Visit our website (or stop in) for an application. http://carmellibrary.org/

Patterson Library Night: 7:00 p.m., Call your friends and put your dancing shoes on! We are heading to the Bull & Barrel Brew Pub (988 Rte. 22, Brewster, NY) for a night of Line Dancing! If you're a beginner, instructors will show you the latest steps and have you dancing to popular country hits. If you're a seasoned pro, you'll have a blast as the DJs have us dancing the night away. We will have appetizers, but the Patterson Library will not provide alcoholic beverages. Ages 21 and over only. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Anti-Valentine's Day Party (Grades 6-12). 4:30 p.m., - 6:00 p.m., Kent Public Library Downstairs Program Room. Not a fan of Valentine's Day? Join the party! Bring your friends and enjoy activities based around friendship and fun. Snap photos in the photo booth. Make your own love potion. Create your own tagline on heart-shaped cookies. Enjoy all this and more while earning prizes and listening to classic breakup songs. Registration required.

Poetry Writing: Mahopac Library. 6:30 p.m., In this workshop, participants will create new poems to share and receive feedback from other participants. Each

monthly session will feature poetry readings and discussion in a format that is aimed to be helpful to each poet in honing his/her craft. Registration is requested; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Movie Matinee: Downton Abbey: 1:00 p.m., Patterson Library. Rated PG for thematic elements, some suggestive material, and language. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www. pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 13

Fun with Chocolate: Mahopac Library. 4:00 p.m., Create sweet treats for you and your valentine. For grades 6-12; registration is required. Register online at www. mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 139.

Coloring for Adults: Re-connect with your inner child. Join us for an evening of relaxation, stress relief, focus, and fun. For ages 18 and up; materials are provided. 7:00 p.m., Drop-in group; no registration needed. For more information visit www. mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Planning for Retirement: 1:00 p.m., Will your retirement be a journey or a destination? How much of the money you have saved for retirement will produce income for you to live on, and how much may go to other purposes during your later years? Registration is requested; register online at www.mahopalibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Saturday, Feb15

Defensive Driving: 9:00 a.m., - 3:00

p.m., Kent Public Library Program Room. Registration is open Receive up to a 10% discount on your motor vehicle collision and liability insurance premium for up to three years, and up to a four-point reduction on your driving record. Class is offered by DigitalDefensiveDriving.com. Cost is \$40.00. Portion of proceeds will benefit the library. Registration is required. Registration is not complete without payment. Please have payment in before the class. Checks are to be written to DigitalDefensiveDriving. com. Visit or call the Library at 845-225-8585, to register.

Happiness is a Mindset: A talk presented by Seema Varma. 1:00 p.m., Mahopac Library. Happiness can be fleeting or enduring. By understanding how our choices affect our well-being we can train ourselves to regain control of our reactions to all circumstances. Participants will learn simple steps they can undertake daily to make their lives more fulfilling and much happier. Registration for this program is requested; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

Chaplin Short Films: featuring Live Musical Accompaniment by Cary Brown. 7:00 p.m., Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring. 845-265-3040

Monday, Feb17

Pop up Steam Activities: For all ages

at Mahopac Library. Also 2/18, 10:00 a.m., - 5:00 p.m., Visit us at the 1st floor seating area. No registration needed. Call for information: 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Tuesday, Feb 8

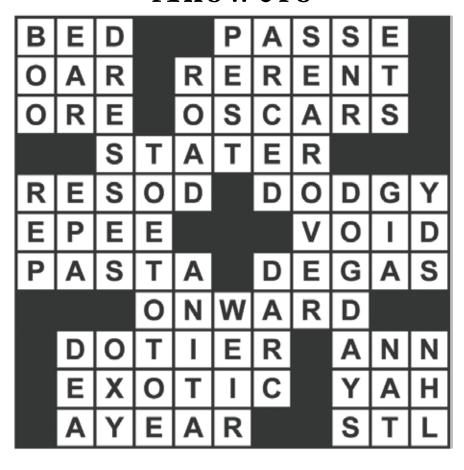
Basketball Camp: East Coast Panthers Winter: also 2/19 & 2/20. 9:00 a.m., - 2:00 p.m., Boys and Girls grades 3-8/ Somers High School. Run by Coach DiCintio. FMI: www.eastcoastpanthers.com

Soul Painting: Led by Jeanette Rodriguez. Also2/25 @ 1:00 pm: Soul Painting is a powerful, intuitive, creative practice. In this 2-part workshop participants will use water base inks to unlock intuition and explore from within. Think of it as meditating with a paint brush in your hand - eyes wide open! \$5/person; pay fee to instructor at class. Registration is required. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Colonial Kids: Runs 2/18 - 2/21. 10:00 a.m., - 11:00 a.m., In this weeklong camp children ages 7-11 can make a different educational craft each day that teaches them about life during the colonial times. Register online at: brewsterlibrary.org or give us a call at 845-279-6421

Patterson Library Meeting: 6:30 p.m., The meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121.

Crossword Answers





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Examiner Sports Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports



RAY GALLAGHER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

The #MahopacWay was on display last Friday night, Senior Night, when A.D. Frank Miele oversaw a regal evening of honor and respect for current seniors and former Indian coaching legends Gerry Keevins -- for whom the fitness center was named after -- and newly-minted Mahopac Hall of Famers Vinny Collins and Joe Corace (inset photo). The three coaching legends joined the five-man Mount Rushmore-like display case of Mahopac coaches -- uniting with former inductees Frank Miele and Teddy Georgalas (inset) -- and were on hand while Class AA Mahopac (9-8) knocked off visiting Class A Brewster, 50-37, behind a solid effort from the Indian seniors, including Michael Kertelits (pictured, 8 points, 5 boards). Senior captain Matt McMahon added a game-high 18 points, 12 rebounds and five assists. This, just days after Coach Collins' Mahopac gymnastics team (inset) won the D-II Section 1 tournament and qualified four girls for the NYSPHSAA tournament at Cold Spring Harbor High School Saturday, February 29th, including Chloe Lee (8.675 1st on uneven bars), Lia Graap (8.45 3rd uneven bars), Jamison Castrataro (9.1 2nd on beam) and Nicole Giannetta (8.85, 1st on floor)... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Mahopac Topples Lourdes; PV, Somers, Hen Hud Clinch Leagues

By Tony Pinciaro

MAHOPAC graduated four seniors, including two starters, from its 2018-19 team, but the Indians came into preseason with a positive approach

'We knew we had some rising talent coming up," senior Mia Klammer said. "I watched a few CYO games and knew they were going to be good. We also had some good returning freshmen."

Combine this with Mahopac's veteran upperclassmen core and it has led to the Indians' excellent season.

Mahopac continued its outstanding play with victories over R.C. Ketcham (59-39) and nemesis Our Lady of Lourdes (64-57). Class AA Mahopac improved to 13-6 this season and is 6-3 in its competitive league.

A successful December made the Indians realize how good they were becoming and also provided a confidence boost.

'When we started beating good teams, we knew we had the talent to do some things and possibly get far this year," Klammer said.

The momentum carried through January and into the first week of February, culminating with the victory over Lourdes, ranked No.10 in NYS. Even though the Warriors beat Mahopac in the first league matchup, the Indians came away confident for their second game.

'We all worked really hard to win and it was such a great game and we felt if we did the same thing, again, we would have a chance to win," said Klammer of Mahopac's first game with Lourdes.

Lourdes did throw a scare into Mahopac in the fourth quarter, but Klammer said the team kept its composure.

Caitlyn O'Boyle led Mahopac with 14 points, Klammer had 13 points and Kristina Rush added 12 points.

In the victory over Ketcham, Klammer



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac junior F Caitlin O'Boyle has been a steady force down low the last couple seasons.



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO

Hen Hud senior Caitlin Weimar posted one of the most impressive stat lines of season when she had 40 points, 19 boards, 5 blocks in 71-43 win over Sleepy.



A perfect blend of youth – like feisty freshmen Kristina Rush and Lauren Beberman -- and experience has led Mahopac toward a potential big finish in Class AA.

had a game-high 20 points and Melanie De-Meo and O'Boyle had 11 points apiece.

Having three players in double-figures scoring is nothing new for Mahopac. The well-balanced scoring attack has been a constant all season and makes it difficult for opponents to focus on shutting down one

"We feel our whole team is a threat because everyone is so good at doing their own thing, so if one person is not having a good day, we have other people who can pick them up," Klammer said.

HEN HUD continued its record-setting season with four more victories - Sleepy Hollow Clarkstown South, Poughkeepsie and Croton, extending the program-record winning streak to 14 games. The stateranked (No.20) Sailors are now 18-1 this season and seeded No.1 in Class A.

In the Croton game, senior Caitlin Weimar scored her 1,500th varsity point among her team-leading 23. She also grabbed 24 re-

"It felt amazing to reach 1,500 points," said Weimar, who will attend Marist and play basketball next year. "It was another positive to add on to this great season that our team is having.

"I love sharing these moments with my teammates because they are so supportive

Mylene Smith added a career-high 16 points and six rebounds Kira Varada had 10 points, five rebounds and five steals.

Hen Hud went to Clarkstown South and held off a furious fourth-quarter Vikings' charge for a 51-49 win. Weimar scored 19 points and Smith and Varada each had 11points.

That was a big step for our team because we learned a lot from that game," Weimar said of the two-time reigning League II-E champions. "We came out very strong with a big lead in the first quarter. Continuing it for the rest of the time and winning he game with a tough fourth quarter helps us gain experience in close games at the end.

'It's always exciting beating a strong team and it's been great going on such a big winning streak. Each game is so different and we learn from every one of them.'

Weimar scored a career-high 40 points against Sleepy Hollow. She also had 19 re-

OSSINING has found its groove, running its winning streak to a lucky seven consecu-

continued on next page

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tive after victories over Scarsdale (68-55), Kennedy Catholic of Somers (80-55) and North Rockland (80-54) in the Pauline Ricci Classic. The five-game day is in honor of Ossining Coach Dan Ricci's late mother.

Class AA Ossining, the nine-time defending Section 1 champs, is now 11-7 this season.

"This run has been amazing, but it took a lot of hard work and time to get back to Ossining basketball," senior Julia Iorio said. "We have been breaking down our films and correcting the little things, such as boxing out, and relearning the basics of defense."

Ede Walker and Iorio led the way against North Rockland, each scoring 20 points. Walker also grabbed 10 rebound for the Pride, as it outscored the Red Raiders by 10 points in the third quarter, lengthening the lead to 17 after three.

Lily Barossi finished with 14 points and Ashley McFadden had 11 points, six rebounds five assists and five steals.

"I asked Coach Ricci if he thought the tournament was perfect and he told me, 'Not until we win,' "I orio said. "I think us winning just ended the day on a perfect note and made coach really happy."

McFadden poured in a game-high 22 points against Kennedy Catholic. She also had five steals. Kacie Scarduzio added 11 points, Kylee Taxiera finished with 10 points and Tamia Dimmie collected eight assists and six rebounds.

Ossining trailed Scarsdale, 51-47, entering the fourth quarter. The Pride blitzed the Raiders, outscoring them 21-4 in the final stanza.

"The fourth quarter of our Scarsdale game showed the team what we can do when we

felt we were giving little effort the first three quarters and in the fourth, we came out with a burst of energy and a different mentality."

Barossi and Scarduzio had 14 points

put our minds to it," Iorio said. "The team

Barossi and Scarduzio had 14 points apiece, McFadden added 11 points and 13 rebounds and Michelle Mercado contributed nine points and seven rebounds.

SOMERS, which lost five of its first six games of the season, beat Brewster (62-38), Yorktown (47-32) and Scarsdale (60-48), making it 10 victories in its last 11 games.

Somers' Coach Marc Hattem cited the play of senior Jordan May, who averaged 19.7 points and 10 rebounds in the three wins. Senior Dani DiCintio averaged 6.3 assists in the victories, which allowed the Tuskers to grab a share of the League II-C title.

The Tuskers are now 11-6 overall and 8-0 in the league. Somers played Panas, Monday, and faces Lakeland, today.

"The Brewster win was a great team win," Hattem said. "We really played well in the first half, scoring 40 points. Jordan (May) went up against a great post player in Grace Galgano and scored a career-high 26 points.

"The Yorktown game was a classic battle with a lot of fouls and tough defense. I was proud of the team for matching the physicality of a very good team. Scarsdale was a tricky opponent. We got some great defensive performances from Amy Lasher, Ava Guidice and Juliana Clement."

BREWSTER split two games, a 64-38 loss to a surging Somers, and rallied to a 52-51 victory over Lakeland.

Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo credited Somers with outplaying his team.

"They beat us in every aspect of the game," Castaldo said. "We were in foul

trouble, could not shoot and turned the ball over a ton. Somers is playing very well. They are going to be a very tough out in the playoffs."

Madison Dakin led Brewster with 15 pints and Alexis Mark contributed 14 points.

"We managed to escape after blowing a double-digit third-quarter lead," said Castalado of the Lakeland game. "Lakeland took the lead going into the fourth and was up four with 1:27 to play.

"Madison (Dakin) got a steal off the press and got an and-one to cut the lead to one. On our next possession, Alexis got a huge offensive rebound, was fouled and made both free throws, giving us the lead with under a minute to go."

Mark had 21 points and eight rebounds, Dakin scored 14 points and Grace Galgano chipped in 11 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots.

PANAS opened the week with a 53-36 win over York-town, but the Panthers were shocked by John Jay-Cross River, 63-58.

"The whole team played excellent defense," said Pa-



Somers girls whoop it up on senior night during 47-33 win over visiting Yorktown.

nas Coach Matt Evangelista of the Yorktown game. "The game was very close until we went on a 19-0 run to start the fourth quarter."

Kristen Cinquina had a team-high 18 points and Caileen Nolan added 16 points.

Nolan would lead Panas with 14 points against John Jay, Kristen Scrobola had 12 points and Cinquina finished with 10 points.

"John Jay got off to a great start, but we fought back and took the lead," Evangelista said. "John Jay made a series of big plays down the stretch to grab the victory."

Following a loss to Somers, **YORK-TOWN** evened its record at 9-9 with a 51-32

win over Lakeland.

Ashley Zeolla had a team-best 15 points and freshman Olivia Lucas had 10 points, including three 3-pointers, in her varsity debut.

Girls' Hoops Notebook

"We did a good job forcing some early turnovers with our press," Yorktown Coach Brian Mundy said. "Our defense was a big part of our offense."

Mundy was impressed with Lucas' first varsity game.

"The girls were incredible with the way they welcomed Olivia to the team," Mundy said. "I think when you have kids like this, it makes the younger players so much more

comfortable and takes some of the nerves out of a debut.

"I wanted to get Olivia into the game early so she could get a feel for the increased speed and physicality of the game. I gave her the green light to play her game and to just be herself. I was just as impressed with her defensive instincts and ability to anticipate passes, as I was with her offense."

Class B PUTNAM VALLEY, ranked No.14 in NYS, closed out the regular season with a 16-3 record, after it crushed Mount Vernon (75-29) and North Salem (62-32).

Senior Kelli Venezia scored a career-high 30 points against Mount Vernon and freshman Eva DeChent added 18 points.

Venezia also led the way against North Salem, scoring 24 points. Junior Arianna Stockinger and Amanda Orlando had 12 points apiece for the League III-E champion Tigers, the current No.2 seed.



Yorktown sophomore G Melissa Severino takes on coverage from Somers senior G Julianna Clement in Huskers' 47-33 loss to host Tuskers last Thursday.



Yorktown freshman G Emily Ward (10) tries to gain lane on Somers freshman G Ava Giudice in Huskers' 47-33 loss to host Tuskers last Thursday.

Boys' Hoops Notebook

Gold Balls Will be Tough to Come by in 2020

By Ray Gallagher Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

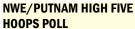
Ranking the contenders for the coveted gold balls won't be easy in Section 1 this season, and what makes it even tougher is the fact that three-time defending sectional champion Mount Vernon is NOT the Class AA favorites for the first time since 2013 (when New Rochelle won). Even back in 2016, when Fox Lane one its second sectional title since 2004, Mount Vernon was still the favorites to hoist the hardware that season. That is not the case in 2020 with state-ranked (No.20) Horace Greeley emerging as the team to beat in an apparently wide-open Class AA field, which also features a scary Suffern club that few people, including state pollsters, are talking about, New Ro' and the Knights of MV.

Defending Class A champion Poughkeepsie, winners of six in a row, will also have to fend off a bevy of challengers, including state-ranked (No.22) Tappan Zee and (No.27) Byram Hills, plus unranked Lakeland and Rye, among several other legit challengers, including under-the-radar Rockland clubs like Magnus and Pearl River.

Class B features state-ranked (No.7) Hastings and suddenly-vulnerable No.12 Valhalla, which suffered a shocking 60-57 loss to Croton-Harmon last week. And don't discount defending Class B champion Dobbs Ferry. So, Classes AA, A and B could be a wild ride come early March.

Most folks would have you believe Class C will be the only Section 1 tournament without a true challenger to state-ranked (No.1) Hamilton; just don't tell that to anyone from Haldane, which suffered a tough 67-54 loss to Class B North Salem, which looked dead in the water in early January before winning 11 in a row.

So, there's some kind of gold ball on the line in the weeks ahead at some place called the Westchester County Center, and we've got some long droughts that may or may not end this winter... see the poll below for some perspective and local history on the elusive gold ball...



LAKELAND No.1

Coach Fallo's Class A Hornets (15-3, 8-0 II-C), winners of nine straight, are the league champs with two games still to be played; that's how dominant they have been. Hornets had four double-digit scorers in 71-39 win over Brewster and All-Section hotshot lack Kruse wasn't one of them, so the Hornets have a ton of capable scorers (All-Section G Augie Karqi went for 18, Jeff Owusu 15, Michael Arcure 11, Brian Cummins 10). Man, As a potential No.3 seed, we would love to see this team with a big man in the tournament because they get up and down the floor as well as anyone in Class A and a 'big' would go a long way toward obtaining the first gold ball in school history (dating back to the peach-basket era).

No.2 PANAS -- Coach Auerbach's Class A Panthers (11-7, 5-3 II-C) are sure to pose some legit problems in the postseason if coach can get his entire unit on the floor at the same time. With Section 1 titles in 1997 and 2014, the Panthers are no strangers to the big stage, and this is one club, which, as a potential 11seed, could pose some serious first-round problems; though getting out of No.6 Poughkeepsie's path is vital to the cause. Panas has to improve that seed by defeating Somers and Brewster down stretch. In Auerbach's 100th career victory, a 71-60 OT win over John Jay, Panas saw five Panthers hit double digits, including freakish freshman Alex Tavarez (14), Robert Ennis (13), Tom Palmaffy (13), Arturo Macchia (11) and Caleb Evans (10).

No.3 MAHOPAC -- Coach McMahon's Class AA Indians (9-8, 3-4 I-A) are another club

continued on next page



Mahopac senior Tommy O'Brien launches shot in Indians' 50-37 win over visiting Brewster Friday.



Lakeland's postseason success boils down to 5 guard-like players - including Augie Karaqi & Jack Kruse-- defending, crashing boards & scoring in transition.



Mahopac senior Adam Mitchell goes strong to rack in Indians' 50-37 win over visiting Brewster's Shane McLaghlin and Steve Switzer Friday night.

continued from previous page

Boys' Hoops Notebook



Panas freshman G Alex Tavarez continued his rapid ascent on Section 1 circuit with 14 points in Panthers' 70-61 win over John Jay CR.

still seeking the first gold-ball moment in school history, but the Indians, who were serious challengers from 2010-14, were in celebratory mode last Friday when they were inducting new members into the Mahopac Hall of Fame during a 50-37 win over Brewster. Gotta take a hit in the poll, though, for loss to RCK.

No.4 HALDANE -- Coach Virgadamo's Class C Blue Devils (14-5, 4-1 III-E) must recoup from the 67-54 loss to North Salem last week, which probably derailed their shot at sole possession of the league title and threw some shade on their chances of winning a sixth sectional title since 1980, including a three-peat to conclude the golden era in 2016. The road to a sixth gold ball runs through No.3 Tuckahoe and topseeded Hamilton, so it's sure to get bumpy.

No.5 CROTON -- Coach Boykin's Class B Tigers (11-9, 5-3 III-A) had the win of the week over state-ranked (No.12) Valhalla, 60-57, behind junior G Ryan Windrum's 19 points and six rebounds, as well as Jack Connolley's 16 points and eight boards. Braden Burke (12 points, 6 assist) and Owen Marcus (10 points, 5 rebounds) were also bigtime contributors in the Tigers' best win of the season, by far. But the 50-48 loss to Hen Hud is a head-scratcher, indeed. So, for all its basketball tradition under former Coach Bill Thom one would have to go back to 1945 to find the Tigers' last Section 1 championship, its fourth between 1933-'45, when gold balls weren't even molds yet.

No.5A YORKTOWN - Coach Pavella's Class A Huskers (9-9, 4-4 II-C) have seen senior Roni Brucaj take more than 40 charges this season, and while that won't produce Yorktown's 2nd gold ball since 1971, it might be the most impressive stat on the team and sets a sacrificial tone that every underclassmen in the program needs to follow. Yorktown, winners in 5 of the last 6, may never challenge for a gold ball on pure talent alone, so Brucaj's All-Conference example is one to follow should they intend to seriously challenge in the future.

HM PEEKSKILL -- Coach Turner's Class A Red Devs (9-9, 3-3 II-E), who onced owned whatever classification it competed in from 1993 to 2009 with 10 sectional titles and five state titles, will, as the potential No.16 seed, have to wait at least one more



Panas senior swingman Robert Ennis goes strong for two points in Panthers' 70-61 OT triumph of John Jay CR last week.

year before this burgeoning junior varsity squad hits the circuit next year. Dutchess County powers Poughkeepsie, Beacon and Lourdes were too much for All-Section G Antonio Taylor and Red Devs to handle last week and those losses cost Peeky a shot at the League II-E title and somewhat dampened enthusiasm for what would be the 18th sectional tile in school history.

HM SOMERS -- Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (7-11, 4-4 II-C) have averaged just 47 points per game this season -- but have allowed just 50 PPG -- and that likely won't produce the second Section 1 title in school history (1992); though it could make them a tough out while building toward a brighter 2021 campaign and possibly the first league title in 30 years.

HM OSSINING -- Coach Casey's Class AA Pride (6-12, 1-4 I-D) snapped four-game losing streak in 66-65 win over Carmel but its been since 1962 when Ossining sailed the blue of the mighty Hudson to its lone Section 1 title.

HM HEN HUD -- Coach Hirsch's Class A Sailors (5-14, 0-7 II-E) ened a 4-game skid in win over Croton-Harmon Saturday behind 21 points from All-Conference junior Nick Hiltsley, but the elusive gold ball, which the Sailors haven't hoisted since 1944, will have to wait another year.

HM CARMEL -- Coach Ross' Class AA Rams (8-11, 1-6 I-D) snapped six-game skid with a 55-36 win over Yonkers, and we don't mean to lump the Rams with the rest of Putnam County, but they are part of an ignoble distinction; in that the next Putnam County large school -- including Carmel, Mahopac, Brewster and Putnam Valley -- to win a Section 1 hoops championship will be the first to ever do so #SadFact!

HM PUTNAM VALLEY -- Coach Morales' Class B Tigers (2-15, 1-4 III-E) are on the brink of being eliminated from playoff contention after losses to North Salem and Pawling (yes, that Pawling) last week, and it could be a couple of years before the Tigers are contenders again for the first gold ball in school history.

HM BREWSTER - Coach Nelligan's Bears (4-14, 0-8 II-C) have dropped 5 of 6 but played much better defensively the last few games. Baseball is on the horizon, my dudes #SeeYouOnTheDiamond!



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